
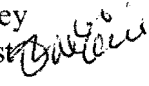


MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Safety Committee

FROM:  Michael Faden, Senior Legislative Attorney
Essie McGuire, Senior Legislative Analyst 

SUBJECT: **Worksession:** Bill 30-11, Fire and Emergency Services Commission - Duties

Bill 30-11, Fire and Emergency Services Commission - Duties, sponsored by Councilmembers Elrich and Leventhal, was introduced on September 27, 2011. Bill 30-11 would repeal the authority of the Fire and Emergency Services Commission to approve or disapprove certain Fire and Rescue Service policies and regulations. This Bill does not affect the Commission's role to advise the Fire Chief, County Executive, and Council under County Code §21-2(d)(1) and (3).

The Office of Management and Budget does not expect this Bill to have a fiscal impact (see fiscal impact statement on ©9).

We expect the following to attend this worksession:

- Fire Chief Richard Bowers
- Chris Zervas, Vice Chair, Fire and Emergency Services Commission

PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY

Five speakers testified at the October 18 public hearing (see testimony, ©10-22). Chief Bowers supported the bill, as did Assistant Chief Scott Graham, representing the County Career Officers Association. Three speakers opposed the Bill: Marcine Goodloe, President of the County Volunteer Fire Rescue Association (MCVFRA); Eric Bernard, President of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department; and Darian Unger.

At the hearing, Committee Chair Andrews directed Council staff to review the policies that Ms. Goodloe's testimony listed as approved by the Commission and provide additional historical context. Ms. Goodloe's testimony identified 42 policies or other actions that the Commission has approved under a range of different organizational structures.

George Giebel, Fire and Rescue Service staff to the FESC, gave Council staff a list of MCFRS policies and procedures with each one's date of approval and which Commission body had approved them (all are listed on ©23-32). From this list, Council staff noted that:

- The Fire and Emergency Services Commission in its current organizational form approved 6 policies or procedures. Four are classified as Administrative, 2 as Operational.
- The Fire and Rescue Commission approved 17 policies between the 2005 reorganization¹ that created the Fire Chief and the 2009 restructuring that created the FESC in its current form. Of these, 4 are classified as Administrative and 13 are classified as Operational.

At the hearing, Councilmember Elrich asked Chief Bowers to identify cases in which he or his predecessor experienced obstacles to implementing necessary policies, procedures, or other actions as a result of the Commission's review authority. Chief Bowers' response (see ©33) identified four primary actions which he can discuss in further detail at this worksession. One of the examples is the support vehicle policy which the Public Safety Committee has discussed twice this calendar year, once jointly with the Transportation and Environment Committee. Two other examples, the Code of Ethics and the Medical Standards for MCFRS Candidates, illustrate the difficulty for the Fire Chief under the current review structure to directly implement operational matters according to his professional judgment and expertise.

BACKGROUND/ISSUES

At this juncture, the central question this Bill poses is: **What is the appropriate role of the Fire and Emergency Services Commission relative to the MCFRS organizational structure and the authority of the Fire Chief?**

History As the County's Fire and Rescue Service underwent significant reorganizations and other changes in recent years, the Commission's makeup and authority also evolved. The Commission dates back to June 30, 1980, when it was formed, under the first major fire reorganization law, to take over the policy-making duties of the Fire Board. The Fire Board was then composed of the chiefs of and 2 delegates from each local fire and rescue department. The Fire Board originally appointed most of the Commission members.

Because the County Attorney concluded that this appointment process violated the Executive appointment requirement in County Charter §215 and a Charter amendment to allow an alternative method of appointment was defeated in 1986, the law was amended in 1987 to let the Executive appoint all members, although the Fire Board still nominated some members. The more significant amendment to the County fire service law, also enacted in 1987, converted paid local fire and rescue department firefighters into County employees under the then-Department of Fire and Rescue Services; this was the County's response to the federal court's *Conway* decision which confirmed that paid firefighters were entitled to overtime compensation under federal law.

The Commission retained its lead policy-making role in the next major fire service reorganization, which among other organizational changes created the Fire Administrator position, effective July 1, 1998. This law established the Commission's current makeup of 2 volunteers, 2 career firefighters, and 3 unaffiliated "public" members, as the then-Executive

¹Bill 36-03, enacted May 4, 2004, effective January 1, 2005.

proposed. The Council rejected citizen suggestions that the Commission be composed entirely, or have a majority of, citizens unaffiliated with the fire service. The 1998 law also authorized the Commission to hear and decide appeals from actions of the Fire Administrator, including orders issued by the Fire Administrator to the local fire and rescue departments.

The 1998 reorganization reflected the proposal of a Joint Fire/Rescue Service Review Task Force consisting of representatives from the volunteer and career sectors, the Commission, and the then-Department of Fire and Rescue Services. The Group was convened after the 1996 rejection of a Charter amendment, ballot question E, which would have established a centralized fire and rescue service under the direction of a fire chief appointed by the Executive, with the Commission serving in an advisory capacity.

The 2004 reorganization, effective January 1, 2005, curtailed the Commission's policy-making role, leaving it only the authority to disapprove regulations and policies proposed by the Fire Chief. The latter provision was a central element of the legislative compromise which enabled the Bill's enactment. This law limited the Commission's quasi-judicial role to certain appeals of personnel actions involving volunteers. The 2004 law also abolished the Fire Board and in its place instituted the County's authority to collectively bargain certain issues with a representative of the local fire and rescue departments.

In 2009 the law replaced the Fire and Rescue Commission with the Fire and Emergency Services Commission, in part to repeal the compensation previously paid to Commissioners. The 2009 law, effective August 1, 2009, also repealed the remainder of the Commission's quasi-judicial personnel review authority, transferring it to the Merit Systems Protection Board.

County Charter Section 215 of the County Charter provides:

The County Executive after receiving the advice of the Chief Administrative Officer, shall appoint a **single officer** to head each department, principal office or agency of the Executive Branch,...subject to the confirmation of the Council. (*emphasis added*)

Consistent with the Charter, County Code §21-3 (b) provides that the Fire Chief is "the uniformed department head of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service, and has all powers of a department director."

The authority of the FESC to disapprove policies and regulations proposed by the Fire Chief at least appears to conflict with the spirit of the Charter requirement that each County department must have a single officer as head. The Commission's current review authority over Fire and Rescue Service regulations and policies gives the Commission some degree of direction over the Service. This potential conflict in department direction between multiple parties is one outcome the Charter provision intended to avoid. However, the Charter is not always strictly interpreted, and the current arrangement passed legal review by both the County Attorney and Council attorneys when it was enacted in Bill 36-03, as had the Commission's more extensive policy-making authority under the 1998 reorganization and previously.

Other County Commissions

County boards, committees, and commissions fall generally into one of 4 categories: adjudicatory (quasi-judicial), licensing, administrative, and advisory. In its current form, the FESC exercises hybrid administrative and advisory functions. Its primary functions are to advise the Fire Chief, Executive, and Council on budget, legislative, policy, and procedures related to the full range of Fire and Rescue Service issues. The Commission's quasi-judicial role was eliminated in the last restructuring in 2009. Its sole administrative function is the authority to disapprove policies and regulations proposed by the Fire Chief.

Other County boards that have significant policy approval or program administration responsibilities govern entities separately established outside of County government, frequently but not always under state law, such as the Revenue Authority, Housing Opportunities Commission, or Bethesda Urban Partnership. As far as we are aware, no other board or commission that advises County departments has a comparable level of authority relative to the department head. Removing the policy disapproval authority from this Commission would more closely align its functions with those of other advisory boards.

Prince George's County comparison

Legislation pending in Prince George's County would change the role and composition of its Fire Commission. The Prince George's County Fire Commission currently has very broad authority over fire and emergency services, including their budget. The pending legislation would make the Commission more advisory in nature and unify the fiscal and administrative processes under the Fire Chief. Prince George's County also has a Fire Chief's Community Advisory Council which is comprised of members of the public.

Financial Disclosure implications

Currently FESC members are required to file a confidential financial disclosure statement under the County Ethics law, County Code §19A-17(b)(4). This requirement is consistent with former iterations of the Commission, when Commissioners received stipends and the Commission had more budgetary and policy authority. Unpaid members of advisory boards, committees, and commissions are generally not required to submit financial disclosure statements. If the Council enacts this Bill, it may want to also conform the financial disclosure requirement at the next opportunity; doing so would be beyond the scope of this Bill.

Commission membership

The Commission consists of 7 voting members: 2 County career fire/rescue personnel; 2 volunteer local fire and rescue department personnel; and 3 members with no personal, family, or business connection with the County career or volunteer fire rescue service. This level of voting representation from direct service employees and volunteer personnel is unusual for an advisory board, and as well for most boards and commissions with other roles.

If the Commission becomes an advisory body, should its membership be revised? This issue goes beyond the scope of this Bill, which as introduced amends only the Commission's duties. If revised, Commission membership could be organized to provide more geographic

(such as regions of the County) or functional (such as hospital or other emergency service provider) representation and focus less on career/volunteer status.

Options

A Council staff memo, written while the 2004 reorganization was being considered, listed the following options for the then-Fire and Rescue Commission:

What should be the role, if any, of the Fire and Rescue Commission? Options include:

- 1) full policy-making role on all Fire and Rescue Service issues (quasi-legislative);
- 2) limited policy-making role on specific issues designated in law;
- 3) appeal body on specific operating issues (e.g. long-term transfer of LFRD apparatus);
- 4) appeal body on specific personnel matters (quasi-judicial);
- 5) advisory body that monitors Fire and Rescue Service policy and performance, and provides feedback (similar to Solid Waste Advisory Commission, Commission on Health);
- 6) no advisory Commission (similar to Police Department).

In 2004 the Council opted for a combination of options #2, #4, and #5. The 2009 law that established the current Fire and Emergency Services Commission also repealed the Commission's quasi-judicial role (2004 option #4).

With this Bill, the legislative choices seem to boil down to:

- Leave the Commission's current structure and authority unchanged.
- Repeal the Commission's authority to disapprove Fire and Rescue Service policies and regulations (enact Bill 30-11 as introduced). This would retain the Commission's full range of advisory responsibilities and align the Commission with other advisory boards and the Charter.
- Abolish the Commission and leave the resolution of Fire and Rescue Service issues entirely to collective bargaining with the career employees (IAFF) and the local fire and rescue departments (MCVFRA). This option is probably beyond the scope of Bill 30-11 as advertised.

This packet contains:

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MCFRS policies and date of approval	23
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Bill No. 30-11
Concerning: Fire and Emergency
Services Commission - Duties
Revised: 7/20/2011 Draft No. 1
Introduced: September 27, 2011
Expires: March 27, 2013
Enacted: _____
Executive: _____
Effective: _____
Sunset Date: None
Ch. _____, Laws of Mont. Co. _____

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Councilmembers Elrich and Leventhal

AN ACT to:

- (1) repeal the authority of the Fire and Emergency Services Commission to approve or disapprove certain Fire and Rescue Service policies and regulations; and
- (2) generally amend the duties of the Fire and Emergency Services Commission.

By amending

Montgomery County Code
Chapter 21, Fire and Rescue Services
Sections 21-2, 21-8, 21-8A, 21-9, 21-10, 21-11, 21-13, 21-16, 21-18, 21-19, 21-27

Boldface	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

Sec. 1. Sections 21-2, 21-8, 21-8A, 21-9, 21-10, 21-11, 21-13, 21-16, 21-18, 21-19, and 21-27 are amended as follows:

21-2. Fire and Emergency Services Commission.

* * *

(d) *Duties, responsibilities and authority.*

(1) The Commission must recommend how the County can:

(A) achieve and maintain effective, efficient, and equitable fire, rescue, and emergency medical services County-wide, and

(B) improve the policy, planning, and regulatory framework for all fire, rescue and emergency services operations.

(2) The Commission must meet at least monthly, and may meet at other times at the call of the chair or a majority of its members.

(3) The Commission, in addition to any other functions assigned by law or regulation, may:

(A) advise the Fire Chief, County Executive, and County Council on any matter relating to fire, rescue and emergency medical services, and review the performance of the County Fire and Rescue Service and any action taken or policy adopted by the Service;

(B) advise the Chief, Executive, and Council on County-wide policies, standards, procedures, plans, and programs that should apply to all fire, rescue, and emergency services operations;

(C) review and make recommendations regarding the master plan for fire, rescue, and emergency medical services as provided in Section 21-12;

- (D) recommend and comment on legislation, regulations, and policies that apply to or affect the Fire and Rescue Service;
- (E) review and recommend any appropriate changes in communications and dispatch procedures for emergency communications centers;
- (F) recommend guidelines for curriculum and programs of the Public Safety Training Academy and other training programs for fire and emergency services employees and volunteers;
- (G) recommend to the Chief, Executive, and Council a benefits program to provide financial protection for volunteers and their families if a volunteer becomes injured, disabled, or dies in the line of duty;
- (H) after consulting the LFRD representative, recommend to the Chief, Executive, and Council policies and programs to recruit and retain volunteers; and
- (I) promote coordination with other County-wide, regional, state, and national emergency management agencies and activities.

[(4) The Commission must review and may approve or disapprove any generally applicable Fire and Rescue Service policy or regulation proposed by the Fire Chief, including any regulation that may be issued by the Executive under this Chapter. Before taking any action under this paragraph, the Commission must give the Fire Chief, LFRD representative, employee organization, and the public a reasonable opportunity to comment. If the Commission does not approve or disapprove a proposed policy

within 60 days after receiving it from the Chief, the policy is automatically approved. If the Commission does not approve or disapprove a proposed regulation within 60 days after receiving it from the Chief, the regulation is automatically transmitted to the Executive for review. This paragraph does not apply to:

- (A) any decision expressly assigned to another person or body by this Chapter; or
- (B) any individual personnel action.]

* * *

21-8. Integrated Emergency Command Structure.

- (a) The County Executive[, after receiving Commission approval under Section 21-2(d)(4),] must adopt by regulation an Integrated Emergency Command Structure (IECS) that is consistent with the National Incident Management System and applies to all IECS certified providers of fire, rescue and emergency medical services, on all emergency incidents. The Chief regularly must review the IECS regulation and propose amendments as necessary.

* * *

21-8A. Standardized Incident Management System.

- (a) The County Executive must establish by regulation[, after receiving Commission approval under Section 21-2(d)(4),] a Standardized Incident Management System that is:
 - (1) based on nationally recognized incident management systems for fire and rescue operations; and
 - (2) compatible with the National Incident Management System.

* * *

21-9. Disaster plan.

The County Executive, by regulation [issued after receiving Commission approval under Section 21-2(d)(4)], must establish and maintain a fire and rescue disaster plan that provides an integrated chain of command compatible with the Standardized Incident Management System and the Integrated Emergency Command Structure.

21-10. Response areas.

The Fire Chief[, after receiving Commission approval under Section 21-2(d)(4),] must establish response areas served by each fire or rescue station that collectively cover the entire County. The boundaries of a response area are generally the mid-points in road distances between that station and the nearest fire or rescue stations. However, the response area boundaries must consider geographic or other features that affect dispatch operations.

21-11. Communications procedures and dispatch times.

The Fire Chief[, after receiving Commission approval under Section 21-2(d)(4),] must establish comprehensive and consistent communications and dispatch procedures that maintain appropriate allowable dispatch times for all fire and rescue units and promote public safety.

21-13. Temporary transfer of apparatus.

The County Executive[, after receiving Commission approval under Section 21-2(d)(4),] must adopt a regulation establishing policies for the long- or short-term transfer of apparatus. The Fire Chief, when authorized by regulation, may transfer any apparatus purchased in whole or in part with tax funds, including any apparatus titled to a local fire and rescue department. The Chief must provide as much advance notice as possible before transferring apparatus. The regulation must not require the transfer of any apparatus that was not purchased with any County tax funds, except in an emergency.

21-16. Personnel administration for local fire and rescue departments.

- (a) *Applicability of County Regulations.* Employees of local fire and rescue departments who are paid with tax funds are not County employees. They are members of a separate merit system governed by generally applicable County personnel regulations except as expressly modified by regulations that the County Executive[, after receiving Commission approval under Section 21-2(d)(4),] adopts under method (2).

* * *

21-18. Training requirements and certification standards.

- (a) The County Executive[, after receiving Commission approval under Section 21-2(d)(4),] must issue regulations establishing training requirements for all active fire, rescue, and emergency medical services personnel in the Fire and Rescue Service, including the local fire and rescue departments, consistent with the Integrated Emergency Command Structure.

* * *

21-19. Code of ethics and personal conduct.

The County Executive[, after receiving Commission approval under Section 21-2(d)(4),] must issue regulations establishing a code of ethics and on-duty personal conduct that is consistent with applicable law, including Chapters 19A and 27. The code must apply to all fire, rescue, and emergency medical services personnel, including administrative personnel. The code must specify prohibited conduct and the procedures and actions available to address any violation. The Fire Chief may refer a matter to the County Ethics Commission or Human Rights Commission.

21-27. Purchasing and contracting.

133 The Fire Chief[, after receiving Commission approval under Section 21-
134 2(d)(4),] must establish procedures, by regulation, that govern any purchase or
135 contract by any department that will be financed in whole or in part with tax funds.

136 *Approved:*

137

Valerie Ervin, President, County Council

Date

138 *Approved:*

139

Isiah Leggett, County Executive

Date

140 *This is a correct copy of Council action.*

141

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Date

LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

Bill 30-11

Fire and Emergency Services Commission - Duties

DESCRIPTION:	Bill 30-11 would repeal the authority of the Fire and Emergency Services Commission to approve or disapprove certain Fire and Rescue Service policies and regulations
PROBLEM:	The Commission current has veto authority over Fire and Rescue Service policies and regulations, which has limited the Fire Chief's ability to modify current policies.
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:	To abolish the Commission's regulatory function and retain its advisory functions.
COORDINATION:	Fire and Rescue Service
FISCAL IMPACT:	To be requested.
ECONOMIC IMPACT:	To be requested.
EVALUATION:	To be requested.
EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE:	To be researched.
SOURCE OF INFORMATION:	Michael Faden, Senior Legislative Attorney, 240-777-7905
APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES:	Not applicable
PENALTIES:	Not applicable



OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Jennifer A. Hughes
Director

MEMORANDUM

October 17, 2011

TO: Valerie Ervin, President, County Council
FROM: Jennifer A. Hughes, Director
SUBJECT: Bill 30-11, Fire and Emergency Services Commission - Duties

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit a fiscal and economic impact statement to the Council on the subject legislation.

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

The bill would repeal the authority of the Fire and Emergency Services Commission to approve or disapprove certain Fire and Rescue Service policies and regulations.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC SUMMARY

The proposed legislation is not expected to have a fiscal or economic impact. The proposed language will only remove the Fire and Emergency Services Commission's (FESC) power to approve or disapprove particular Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service policies/regulations; the FESC will still continue without any cost change. The budget and expenditures associated with the commissioners (stipends and expense allowances) and administration (program manager, administrative specialist, and operating expenses) will all remain the same.

The following contributed to and concurred with this analysis: Dominic Del Pozzo, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service; Michael Coveyou, Department of Finance; and Blaise DeFazio, Office of Management and Budget.

Office of the Director

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Bill 30-11, Fire and Emergency Services Commission – Duties

Public Hearing

October 18, 2011

Testimony of Fire Chief Richie Bowers

Good afternoon, I am Fire Chief Richie Bowers and I am here to provide comments regarding Bill 30-11.

Section 21-3 of the County Code states that: “The Fire Chief has full authority over all fire, rescue and emergency medical services in the County, including any fire, rescue and emergency medical services provided by local fire and rescue departments. The Fire Chief must implement County law, regulations, and policies to effectively administer the Fire and Rescue Service”. However, the Fire Chief’s ability to effectively implement applicable laws, regulations and policies is undermined by the authority that is currently vested in the Fire and Emergency Services Commission (Commission) to approve or disapprove policies relating to the Fire and Rescue Service.

As Fire Chief, it is my responsibility: 1) to develop policy; 2) to provide Notice and Opportunity to both Local 1664 and MCVFRA bargaining units; 3) where applicable, to negotiate policy changes with both bargaining units; and 4) to request that the Commission approve policy changes.

This Commission’s veto authority has prevented me from implementing a number of important policies that would improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Fire and Rescue Service, including those relating to:

- Assignment and Use of Authorized Complement of Support Vehicles (Policy);
- Medical Standards for Operational Members and Candidates (Regulation); and
- Code of Ethics and On-Duty Personnel Conduct (Regulation)

I would be happy to discuss the particulars of each of these situations in more detail with Council at the appropriate time.

Section 21-1(b)(3) of the County Code provides that one goal of the Fire and Rescue Service is to “continually improve the capabilities of all personnel; effectively manage personnel; and achieve job performance and personal conduct of the highest caliber by County, local fire and rescue department, and volunteer personnel”. However, in the situations referenced above, the Commission approval process prevented me from implementing policies, laws, and regulations that would help achieve these goals in an efficient and timely manner.

Bill 30-11 would increase my ability as the Fire Chief to manage and lead the Fire and Rescue Service. It would improve the policy implementation process and increase efficiency and accountability. These improvements and efficiencies would result in savings of time and money for the residents of the County, the Fire and Rescue Service and County Government.

The Commission has played an important advisory role to the Fire Chief and the Fire and Rescue Service – and should continue to do so. The Commission's input has been and will continue to be welcomed and valued by me. In particular, the public members of the Commission provide advice, perspective and input from the community that is very important.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Bill 30-11. I look forward to working with the Council as it considers this bill.

]

Testimony of Assistant Chief Scott Graham
Montgomery County Career Officers Association
October 18, 2011

Bill 30-11

Good afternoon, I am Assistant Chief Scott Graham. This afternoon I represent the Montgomery County Career Officer's Association (MCCOA). The MCCOA is a resource group recognized in Chapter 21 as an Advisory Group to the Fire & Rescue Service, as well as the Fire Chief. Our organization consists primarily of Chief Officers as well as Captains and Lieutenants. Since the Captains and Lieutenants are represented by the IAFF Local 1664, I speak on behalf of the career Chief Officers.

As an advisory body, we lend our support and encourage you to support all Advisory Groups by passing Bill 30-11. An analogy of today's fire service is much like that of a human body. The law, Chapter 21, provides for the parts of the fire service body – The IAFF Local 1664 (or career), the MCVFRA (the volunteers), the Career Officers Association, and the Fire and Emergency Services Commission. Like the human body, each of the Advisory Groups serves a vital and unique function to keep the fire service moving. A functional body has only one head. Ours is the Fire Chief, designed by law as the single authority for fire and emergency

services in Montgomery County. Any body with more than one head is dysfunctional.

Since the re-organization of the fire service in late 2004/early 2005, the fire service has experienced many positive changes in practices, policies, and standards. We are far better today than we were 6 years ago. We are no longer the fire service of 10, 20, or 30 years ago. We should not function as though we are. Jurisdictions across the nation are routinely designing their policies based on our success in the past 6 years with a single authoritative head – a Fire Chief. That’s the 90%. By not amending the following proposed policies of the Fire Chief, we have greatly stagnated the fire service with archaic policy not representative of today’s all hazard mission. No code of ethics and on-duty personal conduct – no medical standards for operational members – no MCFRS support vehicle policy better known as the assignment and use policy. This is the 10%. Ten percent while during the development process, all parts of the body functioned. These policies came before the FESC and were vetoed or inhibited by the same body parts that created them. Not for the “Optimum Personnel Practice” as defined in Ch. 21 b(3), but rather for a narrowly focused reason.

In closing, I have the privilege of testifying today as the only person who has served as the executive officer to both Fire Chiefs. I can testify to

this Council that Chiefs Carr & Bowers both have utilized all of their resource groups provided in Ch. 21. Both have gone far beyond those groups and reached out to the community, the Community Advisory Boards, and businesses as part of their decision making process. That is “Optimum Practices.”

Thank you for supporting Bill 30-11 and bringing MCFRS yet another great step forward.

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Testimony of Marcine Goodloe
President
Montgomery County Volunteer Fire-Rescue Association (MCVFRA)

Testimony to the Montgomery Council on
Bill 30-11 (Fire and Emergency Services Commission)
Tuesday, October 18, 2011

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Bill 30-11, "Fire and Emergency Services Commission –Duties," which would repeal the authority of the Fire and Emergency Services Commission ("Commission") to approve or disapprove certain Fire and Rescue Service policies and regulations.

We strongly oppose this bill for three reasons.

First, it would reduce transparency and accountability to the public in the development of fire and rescue policies and procedures.

Second, the bill conflicts with the public-private partnership model for the Fire and Rescue Service that has served the County and the public very effectively over the past decade.

Finally, there has been little or no showing that the current Commission structure is ineffective, inefficient, or broken. In fact, the record shows that the Commission has played a valuable role in strengthening the County's fire and rescue system through its policy review and approval process.

Bill 30-11 Would Reduce Transparency and Accountability to the Public

The Commission is composed of seven members -- three representing the public, two representing career personnel, and two representing the volunteer fire/rescue community. All seven Commission members are appointed by the County Executive [and approved by the Council]. This structure provides robust and important public input to decisions impacting the fire and rescue service and enhances public confidence in the County's Fire and Rescue Service at a time when public confidence in government generally is declining.

Eliminating the Commission's review and approval authority would, in effect, consolidate the Executive's power over the fire and rescue service, reduce accountability and transparency in establishing fire and rescue policy, and enhance the likelihood that such policy is made for political reasons that have little or nothing to do with advancing the public's interests.

Bill 30-11 Is Inconsistent with the County's Public/Private Fire-Rescue Partnership

Montgomery County's Fire and Rescue Service operates under a unique – and highly effective – partnership between the County and the 19 local fire and rescue departments (LFRDs). While some continue to question this model, we believe strongly that this partnership has delivered – and continues to deliver – extremely high-quality, cost-effective fire and rescue service to Montgomery County.

A strong, vibrant Commission is essential to this partnership. The Commission's structure gives the primary stakeholders, including the LFRDs, a key voice in the County's decision making process. When this Council enacted Bill 36-03, creating the position of County Fire Chief with substantial authority to lead and manage the entire fire and rescue service, the Council tempered some of the Chief's policy making authority by requiring certain fire and rescue policies and procedures to be reviewed and approved by the Commission.

The need for a strong County-LFRD partnership has never been greater. Volunteer fire/rescue personnel risk their lives every day to provide front-line fire, rescue and emergency medical service to Montgomery County residents and visitors. As we have recently demonstrated, these volunteers – and the departments in which they serve – save County taxpayers more than \$25 million every year in personnel, vehicle and facilities costs alone. Given the unprecedented commitment and contribution of the volunteers and the LFRDs, it is entirely appropriate to give them a meaningful voice in the development of County fire and rescue policy.

Eliminating the Commission's policy review and approval role would gut the partnership, drastically reduce the voices of the public, the career members and the LFRDs in establishing County fire and rescue policy, and ultimately diminish the quality of, and public confidence in, the County's fire and rescue service.

The Commission Has Helped to Strengthen the County's Fire and Rescue System

The MCVFRA recognizes the need for County agencies and bodies at all levels to operate efficiently and effectively. Close scrutiny of the use of taxpayer dollars is essential, particularly during tight fiscal times.

There is ample evidence demonstrating that the Commission has played a valuable and constructive role through its review and approval authority and, in doing so, has strengthened the County's fire and rescue system. Often, the Commission's deliberations, and the opportunity for input from the public and other stakeholders, has improved proposals initially put forward by the Fire Chief and fostered "buy in" from those very same stakeholders. While paralysis by analysis has been a problem in Montgomery County, the facts show that the Commission is not a graveyard for good

ideas but rather an important and effective means of ensuring the County's fire/rescue service is meeting the needs of County residents.

Over the past several years, the Commission has reviewed and approved dozens of policies and procedures proposed by the Fire Chief. A partial list of these includes:

MCFRS Communications Manual
Two in - Two out and Structural Fire Response and Updates
Family Support Network
Annual Physicals
Training Standards
Specialty Teams
Non-Emergency Transfer of Apparatus
Helicopter Landing Policy
Upcounty Resource Allocation & Station Study
All Master Plans
Water Study and Water Study Implementation
PIMS Data System for Volunteers
Senator Amoss Fund Procedure & LFRD Records Update
Length of Service Awards Program
Executive Regulations & Legislative Changes
ALS First Responder Policy
EMBERS Reporting System
Background Check Requirement Policy
Command Competence Procedure
Standardized Blackboards, Thermal Imagers and SCBA
Integrated Pass Devices
Motor Vehicle Operator License Requirements for Tiller Operators
Appeal Procedures
IECS
Return to IECS
Code of Ethics and Personal Conduct
Standard Graphics Policy for County Owned Apparatus
Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy
Aerial Apparatus Study
Rescue Squad Policy
Communications Manual
Response Assignments Updates
Disaster Plan
Temporary Transfer of Apparatus
Fire Scene Preservation
Health, Fitness and Welfare Policy - MEDTOX Study
Various issues regarding Internal Affairs including the IA Officer

Apparatus Replacement Schedule
PSTA Student Policy
Minimum Training Standards
SOP for Safe Structural Firefighter Operations
Ambulance Fee

While MCVFRA has not always agreed with the outcome of Commission actions, and in some cases disagreed strongly with the Commission, we believe the Commission's structure has allowed it to operate effectively in strengthening the fire and rescue service in Montgomery County.

The Commission Structure Is Not Similar to "Effects Bargaining"

It is important to note that the Commission's authority is not similar to the effects bargaining requirement that the Council considered earlier this year.

	Effects Bargaining	F&ES Commission Process
Transparency	Negotiations not public	Process and deliberations open to public under County law
Representation of Public in Decision Process	None	Public is represented by three "public" Commissioners with voting power
Deadlines for Decisions	No deadline on length of negotiations	Commission <u>must act</u> within 60 days of submission of proposals by Fire Chief

While the MCVFRA has not taken a position on the merits of effects bargaining, it is abundantly clear that few if any of the concerns expressed about effects bargaining are applicable to the F&ES Commission process. The Commission process is transparent, provides for a formal decision-making role for the public, and operates under strict deadlines for decisions.

The Debate Over Take Home Vehicles Is No Excuse to Gut the Commission's Authority

With respect to policy changes regarding take home vehicles by career and volunteer personnel, the Commission rightly rejected the Fire Chief's initial proposal because it could adversely affect operational performance without corresponding benefits to the public. Since that time, the parties have worked constructively to address the issues, and -- as discussed at a recent Council hearing -- it was acknowledged that "90%" of the issues have been resolved. We recommend that the Fire Chief move forward immediately with a proposal that incorporates these important enhancements -- which the

Commission would surely approve -- and continue working on the remaining issues with the key stakeholders.

Conclusion

MCVFRA strongly opposes Bill 30-11 and will strongly oppose other efforts to gut the fire-rescue partnership that is codified in Chapter 21 and has served County residents very effectively. The current Commission structure provides essential input for key stakeholders – including the public, career firefighters and the LFRDs – that enhance public confidence in our fire and rescue service. We urge the Council to look for more effective ways to enhance and strengthen that partnership and not to disenfranchise the stakeholders, and ultimately the public, in setting fire and rescue policy.

Testimony of Eric N. Bernard
President
Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Testimony to the Montgomery Council on
Bill 30-11 (Fire and Emergency Services Commission)
Tuesday, October 18, 2011

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Bill 30-11, "Fire and Emergency Services Commission –Duties," which would repeal the authority of the Fire and Emergency Services Commission ("Commission") to approve or disapprove certain Fire and Rescue Service policies and regulations.

We strongly oppose this bill, along with all 19 volunteer fire and rescue departments in the County. There are many reasons why this bill should be defeated.

The most important is that the Commission works and works well. For over 24 years the Commission has brought all stakeholders together to better the fire service in the County.

The Commission hears from the community and takes citizen's input in making important decisions. This input improves public safety and increases participation from the community, citizen's groups as well as those brave women and men who serve.

The Commission is the best model to reflect the public-private partnership in the Montgomery County Fire Rescue Service. The law has long recognized, indeed required the combination career-volunteer fire and rescue service delivery model. The Commission reflects the law by having members from the public, the career members and the volunteer members. These members work together in reviewing policy and adding great knowledge, experience and input in all aspects of emergency service.

Since a bill was introduced almost 3 years ago to try to eliminate the Commission, which ultimately failed, all parties have worked hard to improve the fire and rescue service. This Bill will reduce the effectiveness of the Commission and remove true citizen input into the process.

Montgomery County is not alone in having a Fire and Rescue Commission. In the neighboring Counties the Commissions have greater authority, autonomy and input than ours in Montgomery County. In Prince George's County, which

has a similar combination volunteer-career fire and rescue service, the Commission allocates the budget, hears all appeals in disciplinary matters, and is composed of only volunteers from the 36 volunteer departments in the County. Our Commission once had similar budgetary responsibilities but these were removed in 2003 when the single fire chief was created. So we see that a strong Fire and Rescue Commission, with responsibilities, authority, and decision making ability is the norm and is a system that works well not just here in Montgomery County.

The Commission has attracted some great minds from the service and the community bringing experience that would otherwise not be available to the fire and rescue service. We have physicians, attorneys, community organizers, school teachers, police officers, men and women, younger and older members all with equal voice and authority to help our fire service improve. Their counsel has proven invaluable to the fire service. Sometimes the mere ability to make a decision dissuades other parties from becoming confrontational and gives them clearer thinking in what is best for all involved.

The volunteer representatives meet with the Fire Chief at least weekly and talk daily. We have all worked well together and the Fire Chief and volunteers have resolved more than 95% of issues that have arisen including new policy formulation, prior to being presented to the Commission. Then we go together to the Commission recommending approval. The reason we can do this so effectively is the knowledge that the Commission exists and has the ability approve or reject policy. This keeps the process inclusive giving voice to the community and all stakeholders.

We ask for your support in defeating bill 30-11. Allow the fire service to continue to operate as the law was written and modified in 2003 when the single Fire Chief was created. This model serves all involved well and requires maximum community involvement and very little if no cost to the taxpayers of the County.

**Testimony of Darian Unger, 8204 Cedar St. Silver Spring MD, 20910
Opposing the bill to gut the fire and emergency services commission.**

Thank you very much. My name is Darian Unger, I live at 8204 Cedar Street in Silver Spring.

I'm a member of the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board and a volunteer firefighter are EMT; while I am one of many who feel the way I do, (most of whom can't come in the middle of a workday) I'm here to speak for myself and to urge you to avoid gutting the fire and emergency services commission.

There are two main reasons to turn down this harmful idea. First, the commission is an important check and balance on power. Second, because this proposed law fixes nothing the fire/rescue service, and would instead make things worse.

First, checks and balance on power are fundamentally American notions. That is why we have civilian commanders in chiefs and separate branches of government. That is why we have both district and at-large representatives on council. We don't like our power too concentrated, lest it be used against us with no recourse. The commission is an important check on a very powerful position...the fire chief. I like and respect our fire chief. I also like my president, even though I've been disappointed a few times. But just because we like them doesn't make it good governance to give them unfettered power. Actual checks and balances are a vital part of thoughtful governance.

Second, this proposed legislation seems to be searching very hard for a problem to solve. Issuing orders does not seem at all difficult. As a firefighter and EMT, I am used to following orders as part of any emergency response - whether it's a chief's general order to use this protocol instead of that protocol when administering CPR, or an order to use a certain method to attack a fire - I can assure you, there is no shortage of orders. The chief rightfully issues many with no problem whatsoever, and I follow them, comfortable with the idea that important orders are vetted and checked so that new rules and policies will help save lives. There's little reason to undo a functioning system.

Speaking of undoing functioning systems, this seems to be one of a string of nominally well-intentioned proposals that backfire badly and leaves a bad taste in everyone's mouth. You know you're on the wrong track when the curfew proposal drags Montgomery County through the mud with scare stories instead of actually reducing crime with proven strategies, or when the proposal to open Veteran's Plaza to markets end up destroying the Fenton St. Market instead.

This proposal is similar...it's not a good idea, and it's not going to accomplish what you want. I would urge that the fire/rescue service be strengthened instead.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF
POLICY & PROCEDURES

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INDEX NO.	TITLE	ADMINISTRATIVE/ OPERATIONS	DATE	
-----	<u>2009 FESC By-Laws</u>	Administrative	08/13/2009	FESC approved
03-08AM	<u>Acquisition of Fire Rescue Vehicles</u>	Administrative	07/15/2007	FRC approved
04-03	<u>Administration of LOSAP Program</u>	Administrative	09/05/01	FRC approved
07-02	<u>Apparatus Maintenance Policy</u>	Operations	03/20/2005	FRC approved
25-08AM	<u>Apparatus Staffing Policy</u>	Operations	10/13/2009	FESC approved
06-09	<u>Apparel Policy</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Apparel Policy Memo</u> 	Administrative	07/20/2009	
28-01	<u>Assignment & Use of F/R Supt. Vehicles</u>	Operations	07/01/96	FRC approved
73-91	<u>Basic Quality Assurance Program For EMT-A's</u>	Operations	04/09/91	FRC approved
24-05	<u>Cave-In Team Responses</u>	Operations	04/12/90	FRC approved
36-08AM	<u>Certification Standards for Training, Experience, and Credentialing Requirements</u>	Operations	10/13/2009	

	<p><u>Appendix A-1 - MCFRS Certification Standards for Training, Experience, and Credentialing Requirements.- Firefighter/Rescuers</u></p> <p><u>Appendix A-2 - MCFRS Certification Standards for Training, Experience, and Credentialing Requirements- EMS Provider Personnel</u></p> <p><u>Appendix B - MCFRS Emergency Services Provider Certification Form</u></p> <p><u>Appendix C - Non-Jurisdictional Course Equivalency Application</u></p> <p><u>Appendix D - Experience and/or Service Time Equivalency Application</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cross Reference</u> <u>- Fire Chief General Order #07-15</u> <u>- Certified Chief Officer</u> <u>Requirements: Command</u> <u>Competency Knowledge and</u> <u>Laboratory Practical Command</u> <u>Exercise Evaluations</u> 			
01-01	<u>Chapter 21- County Code</u> Click <i>Chapter 21</i> .	Administrative	09/2010	
22-00AM	<u>Code of Ethics/On-Duty Personal Conduct</u>	Administrative	07/09/2002	FRC approved
23-05AM	<u>Command Officer Prof. Dev Policy</u>	Operations	05/01/2002	FRC approved
22-03AM	<p><u>Communications Manual Policy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Communications Manual</u> 	Operations	May 20, 2006	FRC Approved
01-09	<p><u>Computer Connectivity Requirements</u> - Interim Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Appendix A. MCGOV Internet,</u> 	Administrative	07/09/04	FRC approved

	<u>Intranet, and Electronic Mail Policy</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Appendix B. MCGOV Computer Security Policy</u> • <u>Appendix C. LFRD Computer Connection Request Form</u> • <u>Appendix D. MCGOV Account Request Form</u> • <u>Appendix E. DTS Information Technology Products Vendors & Contract Form</u> • <u>Appendix F. Standard Desktop/Laptop Configurations & Order Form (11/03)</u> • <u>Cross Reference</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Fire Rescue Directive #06-01</u> - <u>Connection of LFRD Owned Printers and Copiers to County Network Computers</u> 			
06-05	<u>Conditions and Restrictions On Volunteering By DFRS FireFighters/Rescuers In The MCFRS</u>	Administrative	07/22/03	FRC approved
21-05	<u>Controlled Medication & Security Procedures</u>	Operations	03/10/2005	FRC approved
03-06	<u>Corporation Legal Expense Policy</u>	Administrative	04/15/94	FRC approved
06-01	Corporation Personnel Regs. (Reprint w/amendments) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Sections 1-10</u> • <u>Sections 11-31</u> 	Administrative	02/20/97	FRC approved
06-04AMII	<u>Criminal Background Check/Vol. App/Emp</u>	Administrative	03/25/10	FRC approved
27-01	<u>Disaster Plan</u>	Operations	03/31/98	FRC approved
06-06	<u>Disciplinary Action Procedures for LFRD Probationary</u>	Administrative	09/10/2007	FRC approved

	<u>Members and Employees</u>			
21-02D	<u>D.O.A. Response Policy</u>	Operations	11/04/94	FRC approved
23-07AMII	<u>Driver Certification Procedure</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Driver Training Application</u> • <u>EMS Unit Certification Checklist</u> • <u>Brush Truck Certification Checklist</u> • <u>Engine Certification Checklist</u> • <u>Tanker Certification Checklist</u> • <u>Rescue Squad Certification Checklist</u> • <u>Truck - Tower Certification Checklist</u> • <u>Trailer Truck Certification Checklist</u> 	Operations	03/01/2007	FRC approved
23-03	<u>Drug Screening Procedure/Vol. App'ts</u>	Operations	05/09/91	FRC approved
21-01	<u>Duty EMS Officer Response</u>	Operations	05/13/82	FRC approved
28-02	<u>Emergency Incident Personnel Rehab'n</u>	Operations	02/01/95	FRC approved
21-02	EMS Oper. Manual & Append. (7/97 reprint) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>EMS Ops Manual - Pages 1-23</u> • <u>EMS Ops Manual - Pages 24-35</u> • <u>EMS Ops Manual Appendix A</u> • <u>EMS Ops Manual Appendix B</u> • <u>EMS Ops Manual Appendix C</u> • <u>EMS Ops Manual Appendix D</u> • <u>EMS Ops Manual Appendix E</u> • <u>EMS Ops Manual Appendix</u> • <u>Cross Reference</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Fire Rescue Directive #04-03</u> - <u>Accountable Drug Log and Use</u> 	Operations	08/15/94	FRC approved

	<u>of SSN</u>			
25-08	<u>Emerg. Response for CO Detector Activ'ns</u>	Operations	06/01/96	FRC approved
04-04	<u>Family Support Network</u>	Administrative	11/17/09	FESC approved
25-02	<u>Fire Scene Preservation/Fatal Fires Invest.</u>	Operations	08/28/01	FRC approved
24-03	<u>First Response/Trench Collapse Incident</u>	Operations	04/12/90	FRC approved
20-02	<u>Incident Command System Attachment Post Incident Analysis</u>	Operations	03/19/02	FRC approved
16-05AM	<u>Integrated Emergency Command Structure</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Cross Reference</u> <u>- Fire Chief General Order #07-02</u> <u>- LFRD Certified Chief Officers Radio Designations</u> 	Operations	12/06/2005	FRC approved
21-03	<u>Interfacility Transports Guidelines</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Inter-Facility Transport Approval Checklist</u> <u>Inter-Facility Transport Authorization</u> 	Operations	03/10/2005	FRC approved
03-05AM	<u>LFRD Finance/Accounting Manual</u>	Administrative	04/08/04	FRC approved
26-05	<u>Live FF'ing Evols. in Acquired Structures</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Attachment NFPA 1403</u> 	Operations	02/15/98	FRC approved
03-03	<u>Local/Non-Local Travel Guidelines</u>	Administrative	03/23/92	FRC approved

26-01	<u>Loss Control Program</u>	Operations	08/02/82	FRC approved
23-08	<u>MCFRTA Student Requirements</u>	Operations	01/20/03	FRC approved
23-09	<u>MCFRTA Registration Procedure</u>	Operations	01/20/03	FRC approved
07-01	<u>Media Relations for MCFRS</u>	Administrative	06/10/04	FRC approved
01-05	<u>Medical Standards for Operational Members & Candidates of the MCFRS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cross Reference</u> - Fire Rescue Directive #06-07 - Annual Process for Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service Provider Physicals • <u>Cross Reference</u> - Fire Chief General Order #05-15 - Annual Physicals for Volunteer Service Providers 	Operations	06/21/2005	FRC approved
24-06AMII	<u>METRO Incident SOPs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cross Reference</u> - Fire Rescue Directive #00-17 - METRO Tunnel Communication Changes 	Operations	01/20/03	FRC approved
06-08	<u>Montgomery County Fire Corps</u>	Administrative	09/15/08	FRC approved
25-07	<u>Natural Gas Incident Response</u>	Operations	04/01/96	FRC approved
25-04	<u>Non-Emergency Reassignm't of Apparatus</u>	Operations	11/14/00	FRC approved
01-04	<u>Office Automation Security Policy</u>	Administrative	07/01/98	FRC approved

22-02	<u>Pager Criteria Policy</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Cross Reference</u> - <u>Fire Rescue Directive #03-10</u> - <u>Minitor IV Pagers</u> 	Operations	07/12/90	FRC approved
26-04	<u>Personnel/Unit Accountability</u>	Operations	01/01/98	FRC approved
26-02	<u>Personnel Hair Safety/Grooming Stds.</u>	Operations	02/13/92	FRC approved
03-07AM	<u>Procedures For Requests From State Of Maryland</u> <u>Sen. William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue, And Ambulance Fund</u>	Administrative	05/01/2006	FRC approved
06-06	Procedures for MCFRS Personnel Investigations	Administrative		FRC approved
03-01	<u>Purchase/Contract/Fixed Asset Mgmt</u>	Administrative	04/29/97	FRC approved
22-04	<u>Radio Procurement and Management Procedure</u>	Operations	12/10/2007	FRC approved
04-02	<u>Reassignment of LOSAP Program Resp.</u>	Administrative	05/23/01	FRC approved
02-01	<u>Records Management System (RMS)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>(RMS) Contingency Plan</u> <u>Cross Reference</u> - <u>Fire Chief General Order #05-17</u> - <u>(RMS) Compliance - Phase 2</u> <u>Cross Reference</u> - <u>Fire Chief General Order #05-05</u> - <u>Record Management System (RMS)</u> 	Administrative	11/15/2004	FRC approved
23-02	<u>Requirements for EMS Membership</u>	Operations	12/13/94	FRC approved

26-06AM	<u>Respiratory Protection Policy</u>	Operations	4/15/2005	FRC approved
25-01	<u>Response Areas</u>	Operations	09/08/94	FRC approved
21-04AM	<u>Response Policy for ALS 1st Responding Apparatus</u>	Operations	05/01/04	FRC approved
06-07	<u>Return to IECS from Extended Absence</u>	Operations	09/20/08	FRC approved
26-03	<u>Safety While on Apparatus</u>	Operations	05/23/91	FRC approved
25-03	<u>Specialty Teams Policy</u>	Operations	03/01/00	FRC approved
01-07AM	<u>Standardized Identification & Safety Graphics Scheme for County-Owned Fire and Rescue Service Apparatus</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix A – <u>Community Designations by Station Areas</u> • Appendix B – <u>COG Unit and Radio Designations List</u> • Appendix C Page 1– <u>Graphics Example: Engine and Rescue Squads</u> • Appendix C Page 2– <u>Graphics Example: Engine and Rescue Squads</u> • Appendix C Page 3– <u>Graphics Example: Engine and Rescue Squads</u> • Appendix C Page 4– <u>Graphics Example: Engine and Rescue Squads</u> • Appendix D Page 1– <u>Graphics Example: Truck and Aerial Towers</u> • Appendix D Page 2– <u>Graphics Example: Truck and Aerial Towers</u> • Appendix D Page 3– <u>Graphics Example: Truck and Aerial</u> 	Administrative	12/01/2006	FRC approved

	<u>Towers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix D Page 4– <u>Graphics Example: Truck and Aerial Towers</u> Appendix E Page 1– <u>Graphics Example: EMS Units</u> Appendix E Page 2– <u>Graphics Example: EMS Units</u> Appendix E Page 3– <u>Graphics Example: EMS Units</u> Appendix E Page 4– <u>Graphics Example: EMS Units</u> 			
01-05	<u>Standardized Log Book Policy</u>	Administrative	07/01/99	FRC approved
24-08	<u>SOP for Helicopter Landings</u>	Operations	04/15/00	FRC approved
24-07AMII	<u>SOP for Safe Structure FF Operations</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Amended SOP with FCGOs</u> <p>Note: This document has the new FCGO language included in the regulation for the convenience and edification of the new operating procedures in the Safe Structural FF policy.</p>	Operations	12/01/2005	FRC approved
26-08	<u>Substance Abuse and Rehab</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attachment – <u>Substance Abuse Appendices</u> 	Operations	01/27/2009	FRC approved
26-07AM	<u>Using & Wearing Of Traffic Safety Vests During Emergency Incidents On Arterials, Highways & Streets</u>	Operations	06/01/2005	FRC approved
24-04	<u>Vehicle Accident Response</u>	Operations	04/01/95	FRC approved
23-04	<u>Vol. Membership Category: EMS Member</u>	Operations	12/08/94	FRC approved

03-04	<u>Vol. Recruitment Cash Award Program</u>	Administrative	11/30/89	FRC approved
03-02	<u>Volunteer Standby Food Program</u>	Administrative	01/12/89	FRC approved
04-01	<u>Workers' Compensation Claims</u>	Administrative	02/28/91	FRC approved

MCFRS Policies NOT Approved by FRC & FESC

Federal, State, and Private Grant Applications, FCGO No.08-06

On May 19, 2008, The Fire Chief issued Fire Chief's General Order No. 08-06, Federal, State, and Private Grant Applications. The Chief requested the Fire and Rescue Commission to approve this order.

Code of Ethics and On-Duty Personal Conduct, Executive Regulation (amend)

The Fire Chief introduced a draft regulation, Code of Ethics and On-Duty Personal Conduct to the Fire and Rescue Commission on April 2008. The proposal was authored by MCFRS staff and Associate County Attorney Bernadette Lamson. The intent of the amended regulation was to align the policy in compliance with current law. The draft document was sent to Notice and Opportunity as required in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Medical Standards for Operational Members and Candidates of MCFRS (amend)

In 2008, the Fire Chief requested the MCFRS Division Chief of Wellness, Safety and Training to amend the Medical Standards of Operational Members and Candidates, Regulation to align the policy to the current NFPA Standards 1582. The Fire Chief met with the MCVFRA representatives to discuss the changes that MCFRS staff had proposed.

Assignment and Use of Authorized Complement of MCFRS Support Vehicles (amend)

At the request of the County Council Public Safety Committee, the Fire Chief was requested to update the Assignment and Use of Fire/Rescue Support Vehicle Policy that was adopted by the Fire and Rescue Commission in July, 1996. MCFRS staff worked with Associate County Attorney Richard Melnick to incorporate changes that the Chief has proposed to the Vehicle Assignment Policy.